(a) whether Government have received any proposal from a South-Asia expert from USA to take the help of USA in resolving the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

US move to expand its presence in the Middle East

*331. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the US move to expand its presence in the Middle East and to expand its rapid deploy ment of forces for swift action if it has to fight a Third World country in global wars; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government are aware of the recent defence cooperation agreements signed between the US and certain Gulf States and the prisence of US forces and equipment in the region to meet contingency situations.

(b) Government's position on presence of foreign troops and foreign military bases remains unchanged. India does not believe in external military presences in any region.

"गरीबी हटाओ" संबंधी विशेषज्ञ पैनल द्वारा की गई सिफारिशें

*332. श्री अजीत जोगी :
श्री छोटूभाई पटेल :

क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या "नियोजित विकास के लिए संस्थागत ढांचे संबंधी विशेषज्ञ पैनल" ने विशेष रूप से गरीबी हटाओ योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के लिए स्वयं सेवी संगठनों तथा गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के विशेषज्ञों के लिए विशिष्ट और अधिक भूमिका की सिफारिश की है ;

(ख) इस पैनल द्वारा अन्य कौन-कौन सी महत्वपूर्ण सिफारिशें की गई हैं ; और

(ग) उपर्युक्त सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज) : (क) से (ग) योजना आयोग द्वारा गरीबी हटाओ स्कीमों के कार्यान्वयन के विशेष संदर्भ में नियोजित विकास के लिए संस्थागत ढांचे संबंधी किसी विशेषज्ञ दल का गठन नहीं किया गया था । तथापि एकीकृत विकास के लिए नियंत्रित संस्थाओं संबंधी एक कृतिक बल का गठन किया गया था तथा इसकी रिपोर्ट दिसम्बर, 1991 में प्रस्तुत की गई थी । इस रिपोर्ट में विकास कार्यकलापों में स्वयंसेवी एजेंसियों के लिए और अधिकव्यापक भूमिका संबंधी सिफारिशें शामिल हैं । कृतिक बल की सिफारिशों पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

Textile Mills in Assam

*333. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills in Assam;

(b) what is the number out of these that are in public sector and in the private sector:

(c) what is the production of textiles from these mills; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to set up more textile mills in the State in public as well as in Private Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) As on 31-1992, there were 8 textile mills comprising 5 cotton/man-made fibre spinning units, 2 weaving units and 1 woollen spinning unit in Assam. Out of them 5 were in Public Sector, 2 in Private Sector and 1 in Cooperative.

(c) and (d) In respect of 5 spinning uits, production of yarn was 62,11,000 kgs. in the year 1991. The woollen unit produced 4.70,000 kgs. of yarn Production of weaving unit is not available. Government does not have any proposal to set up more textile mills in the Public Sector.

Expenditure on Punjab elections

*334. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred * on the elections scheduled for June. 1991 in Punjab and the elections held there in February, 1992;

(b) percentage of voters' turn out for Lok Sabha and Assembly elections held in February, 1992; and

(c) the details of polling stations where voting was less than 5 per cent and where no polling took place at all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The total expenditure incurred on the elections scheduled for June, 1991 in Punjab was Rs. 3.46 crores and the expenditure incurred in elections held in February, 1992 was Rs. 6.58 crores.

(b) The percentage of voters turn out for the Lok Sabha was 23.91 and for the Assembly was 24.23.

(c) The polling was less than five per cent in 911 polling stations and there was no polling in 770 polling stations.

Indians seeking Asylum in Germany

*335. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of the Indian citizens seeking asylum in Germany is on the rise;

(b) if so. what is the number of Indian citizens who sought asylum in Germany at the end of 1991 as compared to the year 1990;

(c) what are the major grounds on which asylum is sought by Indian citizens in Germany;

(d) how many of the asylum seekers have been given asylum by the German Government; and

(e) what is the reaction of Government of India with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) There is no definite discernible trend in the available statistics for the last 10 years.

(b) Number of asylum seekers in 1990—5612 and in 1991—5523.